

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Gunnison Field Office
DOI-BLM-COS060-2011-0004-EA
Hartman Rocks Recreation Area Management Plan**

**PROPOSED RMP AMENDMENT
DECISION RECORD**

INTRODUCTION

The Hartman Rocks Recreation Area is a popular urban interface recreation area a few miles southwest of Gunnison, Colorado. Its proximity to Gunnison makes it easy to access for local residents for a recreation experience. It is a destination location for mountain biking, rock climbing and single track motorized enthusiasts. It is estimated that Hartman Rocks receives approximately 40,000 visits each year. Visitors enjoy a variety of recreation activities including mountain biking, motorcycling, ATV riding, 4-wheeling, rock climbing, bouldering, camping, trail running, horseback riding, cross country skiing, snowmobiling, dog sledding, social gathering, target shooting, hunting and more. The area also has other resource values that include livestock grazing, cultural sites, wildlife habitat and rare plants. The 1993 Gunnison Resource Area Approved Resource Management Plan (RMP) mentions Hartman Rocks as part of the field-office wide Gunnison Extensive Recreation Management Area that will be managed for a diversity of recreation opportunities.

According to the Colorado Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), the population in Gunnison County is expected to grow by 38 percent from 2007 to 2030. In 2011 the BLM placed traffic counters that indicated use had grown from approximately 20,000 in 2006 to 40,000 in 2011. The 2006 use figures were estimates so the actual increase in use may not be as significant as these figures suggest. Increased use has resulted in increased impacts to the resource such as wide-spread human waste, trash, erosion, vegetation trammeling, etc.

The focused recreation use in this area has led to some benefits and some problems. The benefits are that many visitors use the roads, trails and rocks in this area regularly for a variety of recreational pursuits. Hartman Rocks also benefits the public as a destination for people outside of the Gunnison area. Hartman Rocks provides economic benefits to the local community: visitors buy food, fuel, stay in motels, purchase supplies, utilize guide services and rent equipment such as mountain bikes. Some of the concerns that arise from this focused recreation use include human use impacts to soils and vegetation, potential impacts to cultural sites (vandalism, removal of artifacts), impacts to wildlife, conflicts between recreationists and livestock operations, trespass on adjacent private lands and conflicts between different recreation groups, such as motorized use and non-motorized use, recreational target shooters and trail users.

The 2006 Recreation Area Management Plan (RAMP) for Hartman Rocks provides sound general guidance and specific management decisions, many of which have been accomplished. Due to issues with sensitive species, increased visitor use and other changed conditions this plan needs additional direction to reduce human use impacts and conflicts in this area. The 2006 RAMP included site specific direction for trail and road management but lacked direction and

vision to address human use impacts on public lands. The 2006 RAMP focuses on local use and does not consider use from a larger geographic area. It does not allow for geographic expansion based on user demands and does not define management for large southern area, including the Aberdeen Loop Trail.

PROPOSED DECISION

This Decision Record approves amendment of the February 1993 Gunnison Resource Area Approved RMP as described in the Proposed Action to:

- 1) Designate 14,423 acres of the Hartman Rocks Recreation Area as a Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) with the designated SRMA boundary location;
- 2) Close an area of 4,363 acres within the Hartman Rocks SRMA to recreational shooting;
- 3) Restrict over-the-snow motorized travel to groomed cross-country ski trails within Hartman Rocks SRMA.

This Decision Record also serves to update and replace the Hartman Rocks RAMP with management decisions identified in the "Management Common to All Action Alternatives" and the Proposed Action Alternative (Alternative 2) to revise Hartman Rocks RAMP.

RATIONALE

The Proposed RMP amendment alternative would best meet the purpose and need to provide the appropriate level of management actions for the area and to take an adaptive management approach to recreation planning at the Hartman Rocks Recreation Area. The Proposed Action Alternative gives the best long term solutions to managing recreation use at Hartman Rocks Recreation Area and allows for management flexibility through an adaptive management approach. Given the focused and varied recreation use of the Hartman Rocks area, management as part of the Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA) for the BLM Gunnison Field Office is no longer appropriate. Hartman Rocks has been managed for recreation outcomes for at least the past 15 years. The area has unique value and provides important benefits to recreationists and the local community. There is no other area like Hartman Rocks in the Gunnison Basin. Recreation and visitor services are recognized as the predominant Land Use Planning focus within Hartman Rocks. Designation of the SRMA is designed to manage and protect recreation setting characteristics on a long term basis.

Closing 4,363 acres to recreational target shooting would improve safety, consistent with BLM policy, in an area with the highest concentration of recreation visits. The shooting closure allows for dispersed recreational target shooting yet minimizes recreational shooting and trail use conflicts in Hartman Rocks Recreation Area. Snowmobile use is not popular in rocky lower elevations in the Gunnison Basin due to poor snow conditions and the possibility of hitting rocks while riding. Groomed ski trails at Hartman Rocks are open to snowmobile use and Hartman Rocks sees less than five recreational snowmobile visits on groomed ski trails each season.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Based on the analysis of potential environmental impacts contained in the referenced environmental assessment (EA), and considering the significance criteria in 40 C.F.R. 1508.27, a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was prepared. The Proposed Action implemented by the decision will not have a significant effect on the human environment.

Therefore, preparation of an environmental impact statement is not necessary. This finding is based on the context and intensity of the proposal as detailed in the FONSI.

AUTHORITIES:

The BLM's land use planning requirements are established in Sections 201 and 202 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA, 43 U.S.C. 1711-1712) and the regulations in 43 CFR 1600.

CONFORMANCE AND COMPLIANCE:

This decision is subject to the following plan (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM 1617.3). A plan conformance review included consideration of Standard Management (pp 2-1 to 2-19), Management Unit Prescriptions (pp 2-19 to 2-39), and Standards for Public Land Health (pp 4-7). Most management actions presented in the EA have been determined to be in conformance with the Gunnison Resource Area RMP. However, portions of the proposed plan amendment in the EA would not be consistent with the current RMP. In particular, designating and managing the area as a SRMA, closing part or all of the planning area to recreational shooting, and restricting over the snow travel in the planning area would not be consistent with the current RMP. Since amending the RMP is an element of both of those alternatives, the plan amendment brings the Proposed Action and/or Alternative 3 into conformance with the RMP, as amended.

The decision is in compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and policies including the following:

- Gunnison Sage-Grouse Candidate Conservation Agreement 2012
- Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Executive Order 13186
- Endangered Species Act
- Clean Air Act
- Executive Order 11988, Floodplains
- Clean Water Act
- Federal Noxious Weed Act and Executive Order 13112
- Executive Order 11990, Wetlands
- National Historic Preservation Act
- Executive Order 12898, Environmental Justice
- American Indian Religious Freedom Act
- Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act
- Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act and Farmland Protection Policy Act
- Wild and Scenic Rivers Act
- National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (as supported by the documentation of this environmental analysis)

MONITORING / COMPLIANCE

The BLM will continue to monitor recreation and other resources to ensure unacceptable impacts are addressed early.

SUMMARY OF ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

The BLM analyzed three alternatives in detail: the Proposed Action, a Limited Recreation alternative, and the no action alternative. The two action alternatives proposed to amend the RMP to (1) designate the SRMA, (2) close part, or all, of the SRMA to recreational shooting, (3) limit snowmobile use to groomed snowmobile routes, or to areas outside of the SRMA, and to update the 2006 RAMP. The two action alternatives were designed to manage for a diversity of recreation uses in a way that seeks to improve recreation experiences for visitors within the area that is currently used intensively by recreationists. Recreation use could expand within the planning area to help the BLM meet the goal of improving visitor experiences. The general goals and objectives for alternative development were: (1) new development, expansion, and special recreation permits would not be authorized if the proposal would have long term impacts to natural resources and recreation experiences that could not be resolved or mitigated; and (2) Hartman Rocks Recreation Area is a multiple use recreation area. Under the action alternatives, the plan would transition recreation management to a zone concept with graduated uses in each zone. A concentrated effort would be made on route restoration in all alternatives. New trails and trail reroutes could be considered for a variety of reasons like safety concerns, resource issues, unsustainable trails or sections of trails, connectivity of trails, dispersing use, social issues, accessibility, and experiences. Camping and campfires would only be allowed in designated sites in the Front Country Zone. Restrooms would be developed at four locations within Hartman Rocks.

The Proposed Action Alternative allows for the development of a trials riding area, rock crawling route, and off-highway vehicle play area. The terrain park could be transitioned into a motor-cross track by manipulating the soil to create features that are desirable for this type of use. Prior to a motor-cross style park being constructed the BLM would enter into an agreement with a partnering organization who would then be permitted to construct, maintain and administer a motor-cross track. The proposed action would no longer allow recreational shooting on 4,363 acres of public land within Hartman Rocks SRMA. Hunting would continue to be allowed throughout Hartman Rocks. People could continue to enjoy dispersed target shooting behind the new Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Parking Area and on the remaining 10,060 acres at Hartman Rocks or the remaining 585,000 acre field office. The proposed action alternative would allow grooming of additional cross-country ski trails and limit over the snow motorized travel to groomed ski trails.

Under the Limited Recreation Alternative, the OHV Play Area would be closed and restored, rock crawling routes or trails would not be allowed, and the terrain park would not be expanded. Recreational target shooting would not be allowed anywhere within Hartman Rocks SRMA.

Winter ski trail grooming additions would only be allowed on roads at the north end of SRMA, and no snowmobile use would be allowed in the SRMA. If the BLM determined disturbance of wildlife rose to a significant level in any given year, authorization to groom ski trails might be restricted.

The No Action Alternative would provide for continued management under the direction of the 2006 RAMP. Two other alternatives were considered but not analyzed in detail.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND COMMENTS

Hartman Rocks User Group meetings were held on July 20, 2010; March 2, 2011; November 30, 2011; February 6, 2012 and February 15, 2012 to discuss and scope various issues at Hartman Rocks and to discuss potential solutions responsive to these issues.

Interdisciplinary Team Meetings were held on February 8, 2011; October 26, 2011; January 26, 2012 and October 16, 2012 to scope internal issues.

A public open house to discuss issues at Hartman Rocks was held on January 20, 2011. Notice of this public open house was advertised in the local paper on January 13, 2011. Approximately 25 individuals, government/agency representatives attended that meeting.

Meetings with a local shooting and sportsman enthusiasts held on November 7, 2012 and January 9, 2013 to discuss shooting restrictions and proposed actions associated with the Hartman Rocks RAMP.

Email dialogue with Shooting Sports Roundtable occurred February 29 – March 1, 2012.

Meetings held with the Gunnison County Sheriff to discuss the shooting restriction and proposed action on January 25, 2013 and January 28, 2013.

A meeting with the local Sportsmen's Club was held on April 16, 2013 to discuss ongoing shooting issues and opportunities on BLM Lands in the Gunnison Basin.

A preliminary draft EA was released to the public on July 31, 2012 and the public was encouraged to comment on the draft by August 31, 2012. The BLM received comments from 15 interested parties.

A Federal Register Notice was published on September 13, 2013. The notice was published to allow the amendment of the Gunnison RAMP through this EA planning decision. The BLM received comments from six interested parties during the FRN outreach effort.

A subsequent *Federal Register* Notice was published on November 29, 2013 temporarily closing 4,363 acres of Hartman Rocks Recreation Area to target shooting year round for up to 2 years. No comments were received concerning this notice.

A Draft RMP Amendment/draft EA was released to the public on March 28, 2014 and the public was encouraged to comment on the draft by April 28, 2014. A public open house was held on April 29, 2014 to discuss the draft EA and 11 individuals attended the open house. A total of six individuals and organizations submitted written comments. All of the comments were reviewed by the BLM to determine if revisions of the EA were warranted.

The Proposed RMP Amendment EA and FONSI for the Hartman Rocks RAMP was released July 30, 2014, for a final 30 day protest period ending on September 2, 2014. Certified letters and emails were sent to interested parties, both documents were posted on the BLM web site, and a press release was sent to the media. No substantive comments or protests were received. The RMP Amendment/EA and FONSI were also sent to the Governor of Colorado for a 60-day Governor's Consistency Review. No inconsistencies were identified.

PROTEST/APPEAL LANGUAGE

This decision shall take effect immediately upon the date it is signed by the Authorized Officer, and shall remain in effect while any appeal is pending unless the Interior Board of Land Appeals issues a stay (43 C.F.R. 2801.10(b)). Any appeal of this decision must follow the procedures set forth in 43 C.F.R. Part 4.

Within 30 days of the decision, a notice of appeal must be filed in the office of the Authorized Officer. If a statement of reasons for the appeal is not included with the notice, it must be filed with the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of Hearings and Appeals, U.S. Department of the Interior, 801 North Quincy St., Suite 300, Arlington, VA 22203 within 30 days after the notice of appeal is filed with the Authorized Officer.

APPENDICES:

A: SRMA Designation and Use Allocations to be Amended to the Gunnison Resource Area Approved Resource Management Plan (includes maps)

NAME OF PREPARER: Kristi Murphy

DATE: June 30, 2014.

SIGNATURE OF RECOMMENDING OFFICIAL



Brian St. George
Field Manager
Gunnison Field Office

10/2/14

Date

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL

Ruth Welch
State Director
Bureau of Land Management Colorado

Date

Appendix A: SRMA Designation and Use Allocations to be Amended to the Gunnison Resource Area Approved Resource Management Plan

The Hartman Rocks recreation area will be designated as a Special Recreation Management Area. The Hartman Rocks SRMA includes 14,423 acres of BLM-managed public land. The Hartman Rocks SRMA has been divided into three different recreation management zones: Front Country, Middle Country and Back Country. See the map below that depicts the recreation zones and the SRMA boundary. Recreation management of the Hartman Rocks SRMA would be in accordance with the following recreation management zone (RMZ) objectives.

In addition, two land use allocation changes would be implemented within the Hartman Rocks SRMA:

1. **Recreational Shooting Closure:**

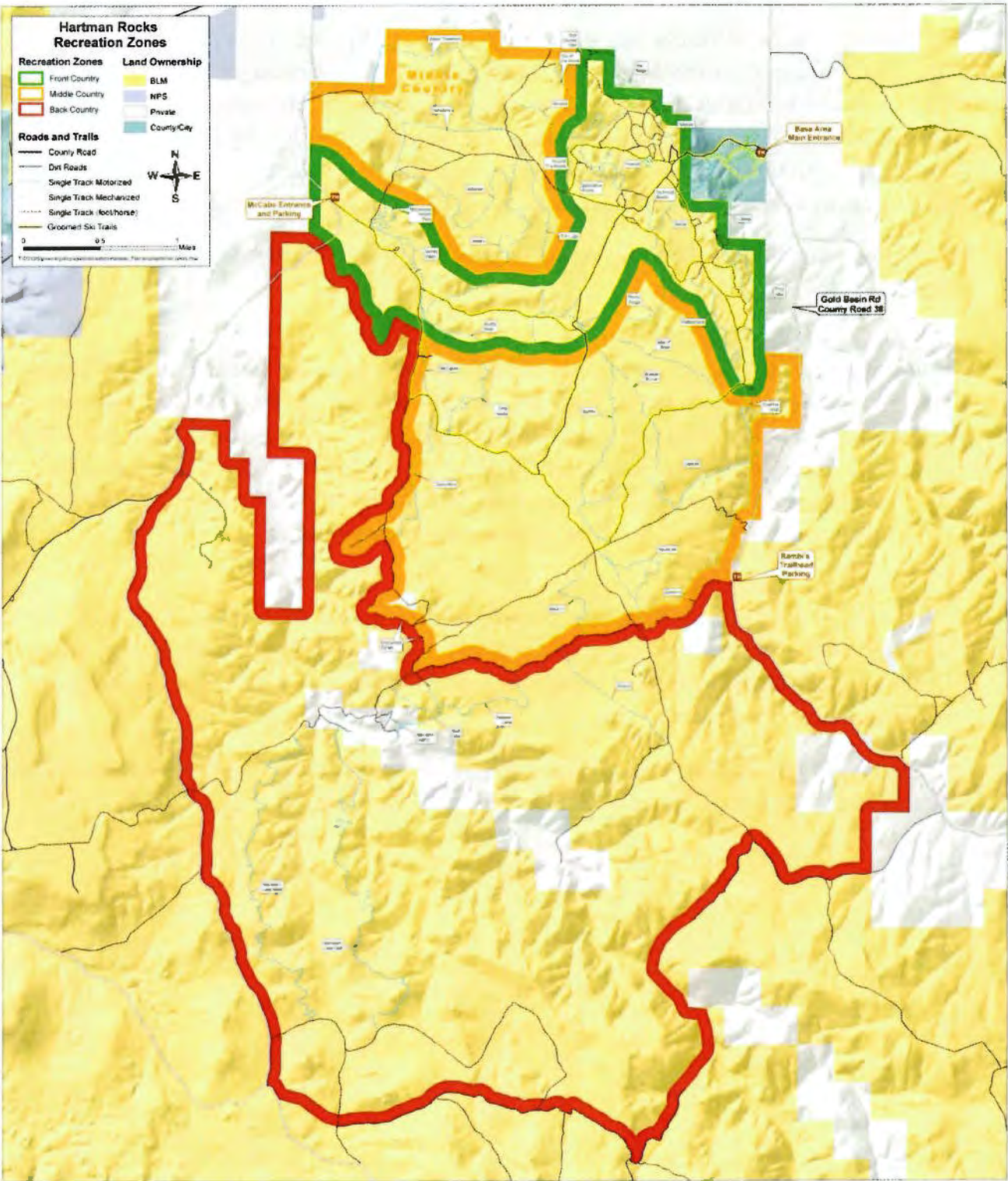
Recreational shooting will not be allowed in northern portions of Hartman Rocks SRMA. The closure area is bounded on the west by BLM roads 3500, 3555, 3560, and a portion of 3565. The southern boundary is the remaining portion of Powerline Road BLM Road 3550 to Gold Basin Road (Gunnison County Road 38). All public lands north and east of the aforementioned roads within Hartman Rocks SRMA will be closed to recreational shooting. Hunting would continue to be allowed throughout Hartman Rocks.

2. **Winter Snowmobile Use:**

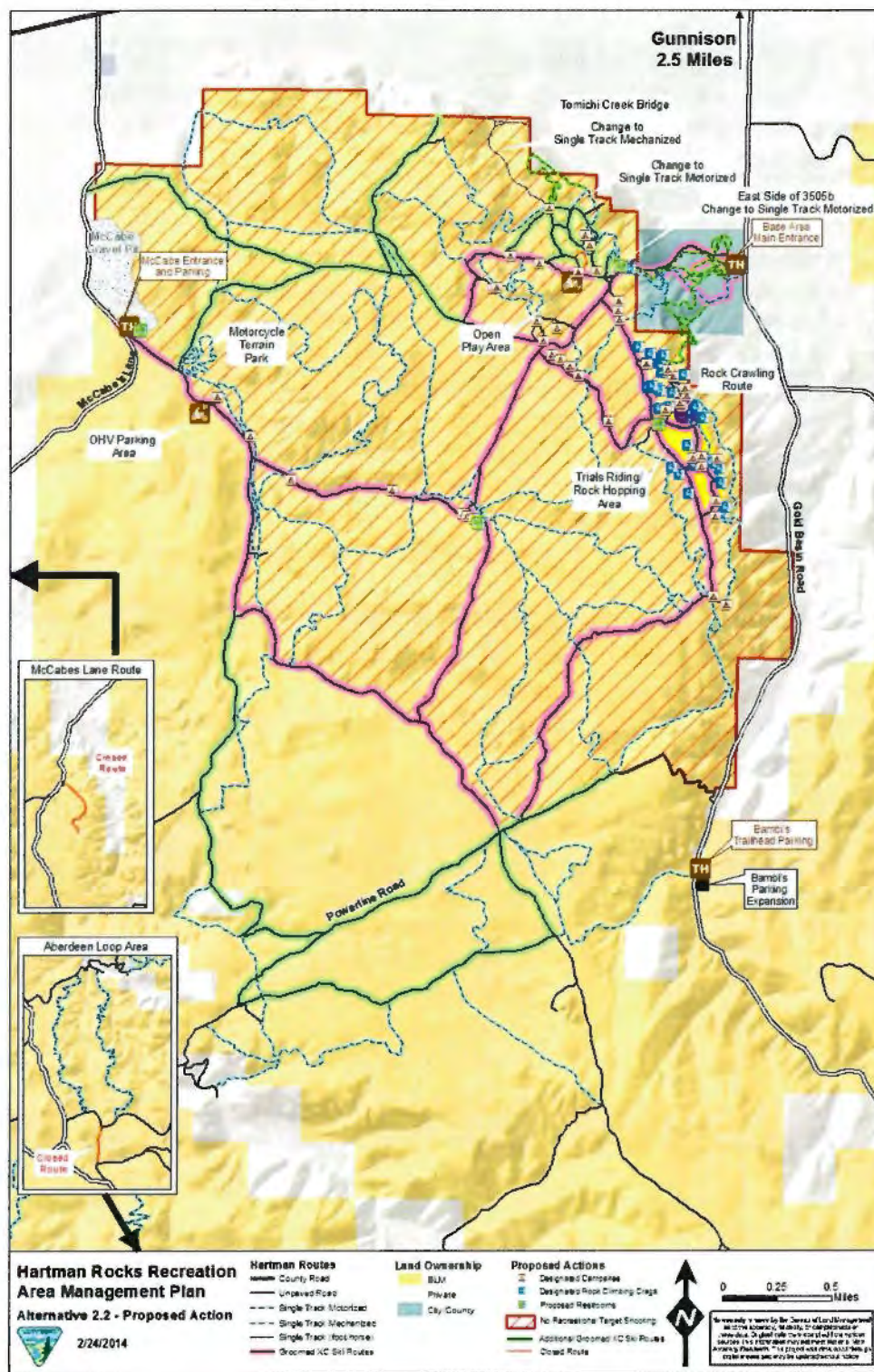
During the winter within the Hartman Rocks SRMA, snowmobiles and other tracked vehicles would be allowed to use any system road that is groomed for cross-country skiing. Using snowmobiles and other tracked vehicles on ungroomed routes would not be allowed at Hartman Rocks Recreation Area.

Management of the Hartman Rocks SRMA will be further guided by the Hartman Rocks SRMA Management Plan, which will be updated as part of this Amendment.

Hartman Rocks Proposed SRMA Boundary and Recreation Zone Map



Hartman Rocks Detailed Proposed Action Map



RECREATION MANAGEMENT IN THE FRONT COUNTRY ZONE	
Primary Market Strategy	Primary Market
After Work/ Weekend Use and Destination Location	Local Valley Residents/Out of Town Visitor Destination
NICHE	
Hartman Rocks Front Country Zone is a multiple-use area and a place for a quick day or overnight outdoor experience for visitors looking to camp, trail ride, hike, run, dog walk, rock climb, ATV, UTV, gather socially, rock crawl, play in open area, etc.	
MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES	
By the year 2020, management of this zone would provide a variety of quality recreation experiences for visitors while containing and minimizing human use impacts through education and facility development. This objective could be measured through customer feedback whereas no less than 75% of responding visitors and affected community had at least a moderate realization of benefits. (i.e., 3.0 on a probability scale where 1=not at all, 2=somewhat, 3=moderate, 4=total realization)	
ADMINISTRATIVE OBJECTIVES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate management with Gunnison County and the City of Gunnison. • Maintain a positive relationship with partner groups such as Hartman Rocks User Group, private land owners, Gunnison Trails, CPW, and Gunnison Valley OHV Alliance of Trailriders. • Post regulations at trailheads and parking areas. • Provide consistent signing throughout the front country zone as well as other zones within Hartman Rocks. 	
MARKETING/INFORMATION/EDUCATION	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote single track trail riding and rock climbing at Hartman Rocks. • Promote winter recreation during the snow season. • Work with partners on developing brochures and web site information so information and education messages are consistent. • Update informational kiosks with maps and educational material. 	
PRIMARY TARGET OUTCOMES	
Activities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single Track Motorized • Single Track Mechanized • Dog Walking • Hiking • Running • Camping • Rock Climbing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rock Crawling • ATVing/UTVing • Social Gathering • Cross Country Skiing • Winter Biking • Snowshoeing • Driving for Pleasure
Experiential Benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing Skills and Abilities • Enjoying having easy access to natural landscapes • Enjoying risk-taking adventure • Enjoying getting a good workout • Knowing this area will always be near a community 	
Personal Benefits	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved balance of work and play in my life • Improve physical fitness and health maintenance • Personal development and growth • Personal appreciation and satisfaction 	
Community Benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved functioning of individuals in family and community • Improved community integration • Lifestyle improvement or maintenance • Encouraging visitors to help safeguard our lifestyle and quality of life • Greater community involvement in recreation and other land use decisions • Enlarged sense of community dependency public lands 	
Environmental Benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater protection of archaeological sites • Improved soil, water and air quality • More sustainable recreation facilities • Reduced wildlife disturbance from recreation facility development 	
Economic Benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance of community's distinctive recreation-tourism market niche or character • Increased desirability as a place to live or retire • Reduced health maintenance costs • Increased work productivity • Increased local job opportunities • Greater value-added local services/industry 	
OUTCOMES TO BE AVOIDED	
Activities	Negative Benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dispersed Target Shooting • Riding/Hiking Closed Routes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased tension with increased use • Increased use increases disregard for natural resources • Increased pollution, litter, traffic, noise • Looting and vandalism of cultural sites
<p align="center">Description of the Front Country Zone</p> <p>This is a heavy use zone and includes 1,758 acres with locations such as Kill Hill, Ring Dike, Main Street, Behind the Rocks, Cottonwood Grove, the Terrain Park and McCabe's Parking Area. This zone contains the two main access points into Hartman Rocks Recreation Area. These access roads are drivable by two-wheel drive vehicles. More people would be encountered in this zone and visitors may experience a variety of recreational activities. Activities include mountain biking, dirt biking, hiking, running, dog walking, climbing, bouldering, social gathering, paint balling, driving for pleasure, ATVing, rock crawling, cross country skiing, snow biking, snowmobiling, or snowshoeing. This zone contains most of the rock climbing, bouldering routes, terrain parks, and rock crawling routes. It also contains the majority of all dispersed campsites. Single track trails in this area are shorter in distance but still provide challenge due to terrain features. Parking areas exist in this zone. Human impacts are evident with surface vegetation gone and soil compacted in concentration areas throughout the zone. Sounds of people can be regularly heard.</p>	
SETTING CHARACTERISTICS – FRONT COUNTRY	

PHYSICAL— LAND AND FACILITIES: character of the natural landscape

	<i>Primitive</i>		<i>Back Country</i>	<i>Middle Country</i>	<i>Front Country</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>
	<i>Pristine</i>	<i>Transition</i>					
Remoteness	More than 10 miles from a motorized route.	More than 3 miles from any motorized route.	More than ¼ mile from any kind of motorized route/use area, but not as distant as 3 miles.	On or near motorized routes, but at least ¼ miles from all improved roads, though they may be in sight.	On or near improved gravel roads, but at least ¼ mile from highways.	On or near paved primary highways, but still within a rural area.	Municipal streets and roads within towns or cities.
Naturalness	Undisturbed natural landscape.		Naturally-appearing landscape having modifications not readily noticeable.	Naturally-appearing landscape except for obvious motorized routes.	Landscape partially modified by roads/trails, utility lines, etc., but none overpower natural landscape features.	Natural landscape substantially modified by agriculture or industrial development.	Urbanized developments dominate landscape.
Visitor Facilities	None.		Some primitive trails made of native materials such as log bridges and carved wooden signs.	Maintained and marked trails, simple trailhead developments, improved signs, and very basic toilets.	Improved yet modest, rustic facilities such as campsites, restrooms, trails, and interpretive signs.	Modern facilities such as campgrounds, group shelters, boat launches, and occasional exhibits.	Elaborate full-service facilities such as laundry, restaurants, and groceries

SOCIAL – VISITOR USE AND USERS: character of recreation – tourism use

	<i>Primitive</i>	<i>Back Country</i>	<i>Middle Country</i>	<i>Front Country</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>
Contacts with other groups	Fewer than 3 encounters/day at campsites and fewer than 6 encounters/day on travel routes.	3-6 encounters/day off travel routes (e.g. campsites) and 7-15 encounters/day on travel routes.	7-14 encounters/day off travel routes (e.g. staging areas) and 15-29 encounters/day en route.	15-29 encounters/day off travel routes (e.g. campgrounds) and 30 or more encounters/day en route.	People seem to be generally everywhere.	Busy place with other people constantly in view.
Group size	Fewer than or equal to 3 people per group.	4-6 people per group.	7-12 people per group.	13-25 people per group.	26-50 people per group.	Greater than 50 people per group.
Evidence of Use	No alteration of the natural terrain. Footprints only observed. Sounds of people rare.	Areas of alteration uncommon. Little surface vegetation wear observed. Sounds of people infrequent.	Small areas of alteration. Surface vegetation showing wear with some bare soils. Sounds of people occasionally heard.	Small areas of alteration prevalent. Surface vegetation gone with compacted soils observed. Sounds of people regularly heard.	A few large areas of alteration. Surface vegetation absent with hardened soils. Sounds of people frequently heard.	Large areas of alteration prevalent. Some erosion. Constantly hear people.

OPERATIONAL – ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICES: character of how Public Land Managers, Cooperative Agencies and Local Businesses Care for the Area and Serve Visitors

	<i>Primitive</i>	<i>Back Country</i>	<i>Middle Country</i>	<i>Front Country</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>
Mechanized Use	None whatsoever.	Mountain bikes and perhaps other mechanized use, but all is non-motorized.	Four-wheel drives, all-terrain vehicles, dirt bikes, or snowmobiles in addition to non-motorized, mechanized use.	Two-wheel drive vehicles predominant, but also four-wheel drives and non-motorized, mechanized use.	Ordinary highway auto and truck traffic is characteristic.	Wide variety of street vehicles and highway traffic is ever-present.
Visitor Services	None is available on-site.	Basic maps, but area personnel seldom available to provide on-site assistance.	Area brochures and maps, plus area personnel occasionally present to provide on-site assistance.	Informational materials describe recreation areas and activities. Area personnel are periodically available.	Information described to the left, plus experience and benefit descriptions. Area personnel do on-site education.	Information described to the left, plus regularly scheduled on-site outdoor skills demonstrations and clinics.
Management Controls	No visitor controls apparent. No use limits. Enforcement presence very rare.	Signs at key access points on basic user ethics. May have backcountry use restrictions. Enforcement presence rare.	Occasional regulatory signing. Motorized and mechanized use restrictions. Random enforcement presence.	Rules clearly posted with some seasonal or day-of-week use restrictions. Periodic enforcement presence.	Regulations prominent. Total use limited by permit, reservation, etc. Routine enforcement presence.	Continuous enforcement to redistribute use and reduce user conflicts, hazards, and resource damage.

RECREATION MANAGEMENT IN THE MIDDLE COUNTRY ZONE	
Primary Market Strategy	Primary Market
After Work/ Weekend Use and Destination Location	Local Valley Residents/Out of Town Visitor Destination
NICHE	
Hartman Rocks Middle Country Zone is a mid-distance single track trail zone.	
MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES	
By the year 2020, management of this zone would provide a quality single track trail experience for visitors while containing and minimizing human use impacts through education and facility development. This objective could be measured through customer feedback whereas no less than 75% of responding visitors and affected community had a moderate realization of benefits. (i.e., 3.0 on a probability scale where 1=not at all, 2=somewhat, 3=moderate, 4=total realization)	
ADMINISTRATIVE OBJECTIVES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain positive relationship with partner groups. • Post regulations at trailheads and parking areas. • Provide consistent signing throughout the zone. • Provide limited facility development to reduce resource concerns. 	
MARKETING/INFORMATION/EDUCATION	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote single track trail riding in this zone. • Promote winter recreation. • Work with partners on developing brochures and web site information so information and education messages are consistent. • Update informational kiosks with maps and educational material. 	
PRIMARY TARGET OUTCOMES	
Activities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single Track Motorized • Single Track Mechanized • ATVing/UTVing/4x4 Driving • Hiking/Running • Cross Country Skiing • Snow Biking • Snow Shoeing 	
Experiential Benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing Skills and Abilities • Enjoying having easy access to natural landscapes • Enjoying risk taking adventure • Enjoying getting a good workout • Knowing this area will always be near a community 	
Personal Benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved balance of work and play in my life • Improve physical fitness and health maintenance • Personal development and growth • Personal appreciation and satisfaction 	

Community Benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved functioning of individuals in family and community Lifestyle improvement or maintenance Encouraging visitors to help safeguard our lifestyle and quality of life 	
Environmental Benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greater protection of archaeological sites Improved soil, water and air quality 	
Economic Benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance of community's distinctive recreation-tourism market niche or character Increased desirability as a place to live or retire Reduced health maintenance costs Increased work productivity Increased local job opportunities Greater value-added local services/industry 	
OUTCOMES TO BE AVOIDED	
Activities	Negative Benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facility Development Riding/Hiking Closed Routes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased tension with increased use Increased use increases disregard for natural resources Increased pollution, litter, traffic, noise Looting and vandalism of cultural sites
Description of the Middle Country Zone	
<p>This 4,205 acre zone receives less visitation than the Front Country Zone and is geographically described as areas north of the power line but outside the Front Country Zone. This zone is accessed by interior roads and trails. Visitor facilities include two track roads and single track trails. Informal parking areas exist in this zone and the zone could include additional small parking areas. Main activities include mountain biking, dirt biking, hiking, running, ATVing, cross country skiing, snowmobiling, or snowshoeing. Camping is not popular in this zone but dispersed campsites do exist. Single track trails in this area are middle distance trails with less drastic terrain features. Small areas of alteration can be seen. Surface vegetation is showing wear with some bare soil around development. Sounds of people can occasionally be heard.</p>	
SETTING CHARACTERISTICS – MIDDLE COUNTRY	

PHYSICAL— LAND AND FACILITIES: character of the natural landscape

	<i>Primitive</i>		<i>Back Country</i>	<i>Middle Country</i>	<i>Front Country</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>
	<i>Pristine</i>	<i>Transition</i>					
Remoteness	More than 10 miles from a motorized route.	More than 3 miles from any motorized route.	More than ¼ mile from any kind of motorized route/use area, but not as distant as 3 miles.	On or near motorized routes, but at least ½ mile from all improved roads, though they may be in sight.	On or near improved gravel roads, but at least ½ mile from highways.	On or near paved primary highways, but still within a rural area.	Municipal streets and roads within towns or cities.
Naturalness	Undisturbed natural landscape.		Naturally-appearing landscape having modifications not readily noticeable.	Naturally-appearing landscape except for obvious motorized routes.	Landscape partially modified by roads/trails, utility lines, etc., but none overpower natural landscape features.	Natural landscape substantially modified by agriculture or industrial development.	Urbanized developments dominate landscape.
Visitor Facilities	None.		Some primitive trails made of native materials such as log bridges and carved wooden signs.	Maintained and marked trails, simple trailhead developments, improved signs, and very basic toilets.	Improved yet modest, rustic facilities such as campsites, restrooms, trails, and interpretive signs.	Modern facilities such as campgrounds, group shelters, boat launches, and occasional exhibits.	Elaborate full-service facilities such as laundry, restaurants, and groceries

SOCIAL – VISITOR USE AND USERS: character of recreation – tourism use

	<i>Primitive</i>	<i>Back Country</i>	<i>Middle Country</i>	<i>Front Country</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>
Contacts with other groups	Fewer than 3 encounters/day at campsites and fewer than 6 encounters/day on travel routes.	3-6 encounters/day off travel routes (e.g. campsites) and 7-15 encounters/day on travel routes.	7-14 encounters/day off travel routes (e.g. staging areas) and 15-29 encounters/day en route.	15-29 encounters/day off travel routes (e.g. campgrounds) and 30 or more encounters/day en route.	People seem to be generally everywhere.	Busy place with other people constantly in view.
Group size	Fewer than or equal to 3 people per group.	4-6 people per group.	7-12 people per group.	13-25 people per group.	26-50 people per group.	Greater than 50 people per group.
Evidence of Use	No alteration of the natural terrain. Footprints only observed. Sounds of people rare.	Areas of alteration uncommon. Little surface vegetation wear observed. Sounds of people infrequent.	Small areas of alteration. Surface vegetation showing wear with some bare soils. Sounds of people occasionally heard.	Small areas of alteration prevalent. Surface vegetation gone with compacted soils observed. Sounds of people regularly heard.	A few large areas of alteration. Surface vegetation absent with hardened soils. Sounds of people frequently heard.	Large areas of alteration prevalent. Some erosion. Constantly hear people.

OPERATIONAL – ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICES: character of how Public Land Managers, Cooperative Agencies and Local Businesses Care for the Area and Serve Visitors

	<i>Primitive</i>	<i>Back Country</i>	<i>Middle Country</i>	<i>Front Country</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>
Mechanized Use	None whatsoever.	Mountain bikes and perhaps other mechanized use, but all is non-motorized.	Four-wheel drives, all-terrain vehicles, dirt bikes, or snowmobiles in addition to non-motorized, mechanized use.	Two-wheel drive vehicles predominant, but also four-wheel drives and non-motorized, mechanized use.	Ordinary highway auto and truck traffic is characteristic.	Wide variety of street vehicles and highway traffic is ever-present.
Visitor Services	None is available on-site.	Basic maps, but area personnel seldom available to provide on-site assistance.	Area brochures and maps, plus area personnel occasionally present to provide on-site assistance.	Informational materials describe recreation areas and activities. Area personnel are periodically available.	Information described to the left, plus experience and benefit descriptions. Area personnel do on-site education.	Information described to the left, plus regularly scheduled on-site outdoor skills demonstrations and clinics.
Management Controls	No visitor controls apparent. No use limits. Enforcement presence very rare.	Signs at key access points on basic user ethics. May have backcountry use restrictions. Enforcement presence rare.	Occasional regulatory signing. Motorized and mechanized use restrictions. Random enforcement presence.	Rules clearly posted with some seasonal or day-of-week use restrictions. Periodic enforcement presence.	Regulations prominent. Total use limited by permit, reservation, etc. Routine enforcement presence.	Continuous enforcement to redistribute use and reduce user conflicts, hazards, and resource damage.

RECREATION MANAGEMENT IN THE BACK COUNTRY ZONE	
Primary Market Strategy	Primary Market
Weekend Use	Local Valley Residents/Out of Town Visitor Destination
NICHE	
Hartman Rocks Back Country Zone is a long-distance single track trail zone.	
MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES	
By the year 2020, management of this zone would provide a quality long distance single track trail experiences for visitors. This objective could be measured through customer feedback whereas no less than 75% of responding visitors and affected community had a moderate realization of benefits. (i.e., 3.0 on a probability scale where 1=not at all, 2=somewhat, 3=moderate, 4=total realization)	
ADMINISTRATIVE OBJECTIVES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain positive relationship with partner groups. • Post regulations at trailheads and parking areas. • Provide consistent signing throughout the zone. 	
MARKETING/INFORMATION/EDUCATION	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote single track trail riding on trails and UTV/ATV use on roads. • Promote winter recreation during the snow season on groomed ski trails. • Work with partners on developing brochures and web site information so information and education messages are consistent. • Update informational kiosks with maps and educational material. 	
PRIMARY TARGET OUTCOMES	
Activities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single Track Motorized • Single Track Mechanized • Hiking • ATVing/UTVing 	
Experiential Benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing Skills and Abilities • Enjoying risk taking adventure • Enjoying getting a good workout • Feeling good about solitude, isolation and being independent 	
Personal Benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater sense of independence and self-reliance • Improve physical fitness and health maintenance • Improved competence from being challenged • Personal appreciation and satisfaction • Greater appreciation of vast landscapes and views 	
Community Benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lifestyle improvement or maintenance • Encouraging visitors to help safeguard our lifestyle and quality of life • Feeling good about how natural resources and trails are being managed. • Enlarged sense of community dependency public lands 	

Environmental Benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater protection of archaeological sites • Improved soil, water and air quality • Greater protection of habitat from growth 	
Economic Benefits	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance of community's distinctive recreation-tourism market niche or character • Increased desirability as a place to live or retire • Reduced health maintenance costs • Increased work productivity • Increased local job opportunities • Greater value-added local services/industry 	
OUTCOMES TO BE AVOIDED	
Activities	Negative Benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Riding/Hiking Closed Routes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased tension with increased use • Increased use increases disregard for natural resources • Increased pollution, litter, traffic, noise • Looting and vandalism of cultural sites
Description of the Back Country Zone	
<p>This 8,460 acre zone receives less visitation than the Middle Country Zone and is geographically described as areas south of the power line and west of BLM Road 3555. This zone is accessed by interior roads and trails as well as some remote exterior access points. Access with vehicles is challenging due to roughness of roads and lack of roads and trails. Large areas are undeveloped. Visitor facilities include two track roads and single track trails. Main activities include mountain biking, dirt biking and ATVing. Cross country skiing may take place in northern portions of this zone. Camping is not popular in this zone but does exist in the far reaches of the zone. Single track trails in this area are longer distance trails due to the distance from the main trailheads. Some trails have more technical difficulty than others. Informal parking areas exist in this zone. Small areas of alteration can be seen. Surface vegetation is showing wear with some bare soil around development. Sounds of people can occasionally be heard but are less frequent than the Middle Country Zone. New facility development is not planned in this zone but managing human use impacts are important.</p>	
SETTING CHARACTERISTICS – BACK COUNTRY	

Characteristics**PHYSICAL— LAND AND FACILITIES:** character of the natural landscape

	Primitive		Back Country		Middle Country	Front Country	
Rural	Pristine	Transition		Urban			
Remoteness	More than 10 miles from a motorized route.	More than 3 miles from any motorized route.	More than ½ mile from any kind of motorized route/use area, but not as distant as 3 miles.	On or near motorized routes, but at least ½ miles from all improved roads, though they may be in sight.	On or near improved gravel roads, but at least ½ mile from highways.	On or near paved primary highways, but still within a rural area.	Municipal streets and roads within towns or cities.
Naturalness	Undisturbed natural landscape.	Naturally-appearing landscape having modifications not readily noticeable.	Naturally-appearing landscape except for obvious motorized routes.	Landscape partially modified by roads/trails, utility lines, etc., but none overpower natural landscape features.	Natural landscape substantially modified by agriculture or industrial development.	Urbanized developments dominate landscape.	
Visitor Facilities	None.	Some primitive trails made of native materials such as log bridges and carved wooden signs.	Maintained and marked trails, simple trailhead developments, improved signs, and very basic toilets.	Improved yet modest, rustic facilities such as campsites, restrooms, trails, and interpretive signs.	Modern facilities such as campgrounds, group shelters, boat launches, and occasional exhibits.	Elaborate full-service facilities such as laundry, restaurants, and groceries	

SOCIAL – VISITOR USE AND USERS: character of recreation – tourism use

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